



Milwaukee County

Supervisor Eyon Biddle, Sr., 10th District

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GOVERNOR, LEGISLATURE MOVE TO DISCRIMINATE, KEEP FELONS FROM GETTING JOBS

What in the world is wrong with our state's leaders?

Milwaukee, WI – County Supervisor Eyon Biddle, Sr., released the following statement regarding a proposal from Senator Alberta Darling and Representative Joel Kleefisch that would allow employers to refuse to employ (or to terminate from employment) an individual who has been convicted of a felony:

“Jim Crow-style antics are alive and well in the State of Wisconsin. The Governor and Legislature have already stripped rights from hard working individuals and made it harder for citizens to exercise their constitutionally-guaranteed right to vote. Now, they plan to legalize workplace discrimination. This is a disgusting piece of legislation that, if adopted, will dramatically affect the ability to put people back to work. We need to find ways to get people working again, rather than finding ways to keep unemployment at record highs.

“The lack of leadership from Governor Walker and the Legislature is interfering with human rights, civil rights, and the public’s ability to earn a living. I am crafting County Board legislation opposing this discriminatory practice. I call on my colleagues to support it for the good of their unemployed constituents who desperately need work in these trying economic times. We cannot continue to punish people who may have made mistakes while limiting work opportunities and diminishing safety nets for people of color.

“The public, faith-based leaders and community advocates need to rally against this unjust bill. Citizens can contact their State Senators and Representatives by calling the state legislative hotline at 1-800-362-9472. We CANNOT continue on this path.

“What in the world is wrong with our state leaders? Do they wake up and say to themselves, ‘How can we discriminate, oppress and make the lives of everyday people more miserable?’ The Governor and Legislature need to focus on creating jobs, rather than limiting opportunities for people who need work.”

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